



Eastern Arizona Type II Incident Management Team

North Taylor Fire

Contacts: Jonetta Holt, Public Information Officer, 520-400-1007
Peter D'Aquanni, Public Information Officer, 505-429-1060
Jim Whittington, Public Information Officer, 928-530-2289

Acres: 117 Containment: 35% Cause: Lightning Personnel: 269
Hot Shot Crews: 5 Helicopters: 4 Cost: \$233,000

Today's Actions

Crews completed line around the perimeter of the fire late yesterday, as the fire activity was confined to low intensity creeping and smoldering with a light rain falling in the area during the afternoon. This morning's work will focus on securing and improving the lines in anticipation of strong winds this afternoon. Firefighters will strengthen the containment by extinguishing all burning and smoldering fuels within 100 feet of the containment lines.

A Red Flag Warning for gusts of 40 miles per hour is in place from 10:00 am until 7:00 pm. These winds, expected to be from the southwest, will test the containment lines on the northeast section of the fire. "That part of the perimeter will be critical this afternoon, which is why we have three Hot Shot crews working the line on that side and positioned to respond to any spots that may form outside the lines," said Incident Commander Larry Raley.

The winds may hamper the helicopters assigned to the fire, as they cannot operate effectively in strong, gusty winds. When the winds allow, the helicopters will be pulling water from Riggs Lake, which is closed for swimming to allow pilots to work quickly without being concerned for the safety of swimmers and fishermen near the dip sites. The campsites around the lake remain open. Members of the public traveling up Highway 366 should exercise caution and maintain an appropriate speed in anticipation of heavy fire traffic.

For information on fire restrictions throughout the southwest, please visit <http://gacc.nifc.gov/swcc>.